JW, HR

Dear Jerry, 7/24/72

Your letterof the 19th came today. It was postmarked the 21st.

I guess I have never realized just how many blessings I have. All these people who love and respect me so, and have such unique ways of manifesting it. Knowing you was not merely knowing God. It now turns out you are also Mr. Clean and Mr. Welcome Wagom, too. All purity, all courtesies.

There is little point in staying down at your level. You have been engaged in one self-deception after another and you can't stop because you can't face what you'd have to. Carried to its logical conclusion, you have a walking example of wha t to expect in your father. The longer you put off coming to grips with reality, beginning with your exalted concept of self and your arrogating to yourself judgements you were in no position to make, the more tragic, painful and difficult to surmout all of this will be. There just is no way, except in the sick mind of the attacker, for the victim of the rape to be the attracive musiance that justifies it.

Of course I know you could keep copies of what you return. But I haven't called you a crook. I do expect you to return everything as soon as you can, and I know that with the present state of your mind this may never happen and you'll have a dozen tortured excuses. There is no doubt that what you got from me you got under accpted conditionsof secrecy. You have displayed an incapacity to keep secrets. Therefore, I want everything back. And it is obvious that you have not responded to my question about unautorized distribution of any of this. Example: Post Mortem. You can't have that in so many files, you can promptly package up and return all the copies you have and made, and this is no serious intrusion into whatever "many more pressing matters...occupy me at present". (One sample was too much.)

I can't imagine Walter having said what you attribute to him, but if he did, he really knows nothing about this. I asked him to get the foundations file back, no more. As I reread your words, I can see the trail of the snake through the murk of your mind, just how you distorted it. I am confident Walter said other than you represent, which has become all too typical of you. This graph is not the representation of who did what you gaveme before, but that won't trouble you. From the murk you can progress to the dust, the twisted trail will still be there.

You may well be right that Linda and Don were here a second time. But I accepted them on your sayso, you assured me they were trustworthy, and the correspondence for the last year or so will show that despite your present conveniences of conscience, also described as "good", you did accept responsibility for its return. Why all the horseshit? Can't you be straight about anything? And I suggest it is more important to yourself that you straighten out than to others. You damned well know that when your responsible behavior took this kind os direction I repeatedly ask you for their addresses so I could make the effort myself. What you don t and won't know is the present urgent need for this file that only genius thinkers like you and your fellow big brains could not conceive. It it matures, you have guaranteed that there will be no time for me to put it all together. Here you say you reread my letter. Thus you explain your failure to make response to anything, except to say that you brought Linda and Don here a second time. But it is I who provide "more examples of convenient memory" to you.

The more I take a second look at your letter, the more I sorrow for you. You are really sick in the head to utter such drivvel. Whenin the hell did you ever "regard" me"as a father figure"? Of course, I can't peneterate the mind, least of all one like yours now is. But I have a fairly clear recollection of your acts. Those of one casting himself in the role of a son they were not. The year in which you failed to return a file you promised to return is an immediate example. This is not to say that you didn't persist in manifesting personal immaturity, like in dropping your possessions where they would compel attention to you every time someone stumbled over your shoes, walked around you luggage, things like that. But acting like a baby and acting like a son are not identical. You follow this with what only a sick mind would not recognize as really sick,"unquestioningly accepting all of your judgements as invariably coreect". In the present matter I solicited dialogue, refusing the argue a point of view in advance, and none of those suddenly so omniscient wrote any statement of original thought. You in particular undertook no dialgue with me prior to either of the two non consistent versions you have given me alone of what you did. God knows what you have told others, as probably in time I will. How you can kid yourself this way and consider yourself rational escapes me. But let me give you a challenge you will probably not accept: send this paragraph to Howard and ask him how it

stacks up with his experience in this particular case. I have no objection to your going into others, and there are, I am sure, many he will recall. But the one of which you make so totally and deliberately false a representation is more in point. In fact, I will send a copy of this to Howard and ask him not to send you our correspondence but to select a few ~~matrix~~ of the many cases in which I told him the important thing for him was to do what he considered right, not what I do. I think he will tell you that I have taken a considerable amount of time encouraging him to be independent, not to be overwhelmed by me or by anyone else, on this or anything else. The difference is not in me. It is the difference between you and Howard. Although more than twice your age, I am more flexible than you. I do change, and again the case in point illustrates. Howard comes here for serious purposes and he knows my files and my work well. I think he'll have no trouble telling you that when I changed on this aspect, when the potential became apparent to me, change required the abandonment of more work than you'll do at your job in more than a year. He will tell you that I have agreed with his suggestions and disagreed with them, and I tell you the same is true of him. I abandoned more work that you, Sylvia and Cyril and Gary have done on the case collectively since Sylvia finished her manuscript. With you at least it is not uncharitable to say you have done no work, haven't even mastered the basic published literature. Can anyone have a more mature or responsible foundation for making the most basic judgements? It is quite the opposite of what you would like to kid yourself into believing and haven't the common sense to realize makes of you a fool or a knave, when you send it to others.

In the several letters I have written you there is a fairly specific bill or particulars. You have not responded. Your pretensions of charity and tolerance may fool you, may make you think you have come to grips with reality, but they are self-deception. Gary has yet to answer my last letter. Sylvia sent me her own kind of non-response. Long ago I responded to that pointing out that it is non-responsive. She has not rplied and I have no intention of carrying it further. I really do sorrow for all of you, for I have no doubt that sublimely ignorant of that into which you have injected yourselves, you really did think you were doing what is right, and none of you asked yourselves if you were in a position to judge. None of you asked yourselves what you or anyone else could do if this backfires. None of you were in a position to make an intelligent estimate of any aspect, yet all of you, yearning for what I'll leave to others to describe, rushed in, each for his own purposes, in all case I am reasonably certain involving a secret yearning for fame not earned by anything done and in some cases more and worse. If any of you self-appointed big brains had spent this time and effort in real work you might have made a contribution to what may ultimately be known, but you all yearned, and yearning is all that counts. Work is for others. You are all too important for that. And all too busy accumulating what makes life comfortable.

It is true that I have taken much time with younger pleople. When you can bring yourself to the personal vilification with which you repay me for the enormous amount of my time you have wasted, in return for which you have done not a single thing of real worth, I have all I need to learn that the next new ones who come along will have to produce a record of work and that of meaning before I waste any time on them. There are almost none of us doing any work, but there is a goodly -no, not that - large number seeking to exploit it for personal self-esteem if not more. And all delude themselves about thier motives and prospects. Your letters show no doubts. You may kid yourself but you are not kidding me. Too much comes back to me from too many people. I am not talking about Howard. He can tell you I told him some of the newer stupidities the end of last week. From Cyril down, of up if by now you prefer, not one of you has done any thinking. You are all plodding along on the glory road that has too good a chance of duplicating the already too many to hell. You can't, any of you, undo what you have done. But you can at least put your own heads together, try to overcome your self-deceptions, and be prepared for what may be the end result. After it happens it will be too late. Then guilt and shame will overwhelm you all. So at least understand what you may have helped bring tio pass. You can't now do much about it. What has been done has been. You will never understand when you deceive yourself with the kind of absolute garbage you have sent me. It now makes no difference to me. I don't really care what any of you think of me, for our relationships, none of which ever benefitted me in any personal way or made any single significant contribution to my or our work, are at an end. I can't recapture what this oddly manifested love and respect has cost me, in such time and little money that, as you know, is for us much today. So, I hope you will think of why I'm taking all this time for so utterly an unworthy thing as you have written. It is not a self-indulgence. We are finished, for I will never again be able to trust you or what you undoubtedly think is your judgement and, as you call it a, "good conscience". I will not again try to help you sort all of this

I was given some attached-carbon sets, a luxury I have not enjoyed in 2 1/2 years. I missed the last two lines on the preceeding page on the carbons, os I repeat them and my carbon and Howard's will have them:
out. You don't dare anyway. A measure of your personal integrity will be the time it takes you to return my things, especially those you can get immediately. Sick one, heal thyself.

At this point Lil called me to take our midday dip. On the pool I thought a bit more about this. I expect your mind to block all meaningful consideration, but for whatever it is worth, having wasted so much time on and through you, I waste a bit more.

There is nobody I can recall who knows you and has discussed you who has not commented on the chasm between the capacity of your mind and your emotional (non)development, your tendency toward self-indulgence, your incongruous immaturity. I anticipate you will find these opinions unwelcome, perhaps offensive, but they are what others have told me and I concur. More, you must remember that over the years I have addressed these things in many ways, including bluntly, long before there was any such disagreement between us.

Your relationship with Joannie was unnatural and unhealthy, call it whatever else you may prefer. You were lost in love and longing to marry and simultaneously had a sister in whom he had no sexual interest. You had absolutely nothing in common, and this made the relationship more meaningful. It was sick and you wouldn't hear of it. There may be others.

Now I am not saying that it is wrong and ungealthy for a man to enjoy the company of a woman (in this case a girl) without laying her. That, however, is not your own representation.

If you could get Sylvia to level, I'm sure even she would in general concur.

What I am suggesting is that if you have coverage, you'd best have a psychiatric consultation. If you do not, it will do you more good than a European vacation. Obviously, none of this means anything to me. I don't care if you do or don't. I just want to get my material back and get your assurance that you have not distributed any of it and forget about you and that great waste in our lives and productivity. (Of course, if you have made any distribution or anything, I expect an accounting and recovery, without that disgraceful self description whenever you get good and ready and haven't to stop to pick your nose.)

Your letter, as do others I've received, indicates Gary sent you a copy of his letter to me. I have no desire to add to the ultimate hurt all of you have done yourselves so I have not been engaged in broadcasting these things. (I therefore presume that to a degree you did may also. I don't care.) You do not say that Gary sent you my letters, and if he did, you are more than without comment. Either way, you should be able to get a reading, if you have not closed your eyes as tightly as your mind. On yourself and on him.

HW